

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 1

On Page 1, after the title, please insert the following paragraph:

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

This application is entitled to the benefit of and incorporates by reference essential subject matter disclosed in International Application No. PCT/EP04/052609 filed on October 21, 2004 and European Patent Application No. 03 103 896.1 filed on October 22, 2003.

Page 2

On Page 2, after line 23, please insert the following paragraph:

WO 02/088459 discloses a method for manufacturing a wire cord comprising the steps of bundling a plurality of wires in a bundling means; crimping the wires between meshing toothed surfaces; and twisting together the plurality of crimped wires along a twisting path.

On Page 2, between lines 23 and 24, please insert the following: ~~Object of the invention~~ OBJECT AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.

On Page 2, after line 26 please delete the following:

~~This object is achieved by a method as claimed in claim 1, respectively a machine as claimed in claim 5.~~

Page 3

On Page 3, before line 1, please delete the following: ~~SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.~~

On Page 3, please replace the paragraph between lines 12 and 18 with the following:

The plurality of wires shall ~~preferably~~ be closely bundled so that they lie closely side-by-side in one plane before they are crimped between the meshing toothed surfaces, and the twisting together of the wires shall preferably already start between the meshing toothed surfaces of the crimping wheels. ~~In ideal circumstances, the~~ The plurality of wires shall still lie closely ~~side-by-side~~ side-by-side in one plane at the entrance of the meshing toothed surfaces of the crimping wheels, whereas at the outlet of the meshing toothed surfaces, the wires shall already be crossing one another.

On Page 3, please replace the paragraph between lines 19 and 27 with the following:

A machine for manufacturing a cord in accordance with the present invention has a crimping means with crimping wheels with meshing toothed surfaces for crimping the wires and a twisting means for twisting together the wires along a twisting path. In accordance with an important aspect of the present invention, the crimping means comprises a pair of crimping wheels with meshing toothed surfaces that is located at the beginning of the twisting path, and the machine also comprises bundling means located upstream of the pair of crimping wheels for closely bundling a plurality of wires in such a way as to force the plurality of wires to lie closely side-by-side before passing them between said toothed surfaces at the beginning of said twisting path.